

Younger accused of Scots 'betrayal'

by Olga Wotjes
Scottish Correspondent

The Government decision to close two Scottish education colleges and merge a third has come under double attack. There were stormy scenes in the Scottish Grand Committee this week as MPs called on Government ministers to resign, accusing them of betrayal, cowardice and cynicism.

There was particular acrimony as Scottish Secretary, Mr George Younger, and Scottish Education Minister, Mr Alex Fletcher, had been in the forefront of the campaign to save colleges under threat from the Labour Government in 1977.

Mr Younger's speech on the geographical and regional reasons for the decision and his defence of his lack of consultation as preventing "a stretched period of insecurity" was constantly interrupted by infuriated MPs.

The ministers came under unexpected attack from two of their own MPs, although all the

Tories abstained from a motion carried 40-0 to report the debate to the Commons. It is possible there will be an attempt to hold another debate in the Commons.

The General Teaching Council for Scotland, which advises the Scottish Secretary on supply, has strongly criticized the plans to close Hamilton College in Lanarkshire.

The council recommended in March a reduction in Scotland's 10 colleges, beginning with smaller ones. The Scottish Education Department said that while it recognized the valuable contribution Hamilton has made to pre-service and in-service training, the college has only 350 students and a surplus of accommodation.

The council was angered that no notice was taken of its advice stressing that Lanarkshire and Glasgow areas of traditional shortage, needed special attention.

Following news that Hamilton students are taking advice on whether the Scottish Secretary can legally close the colleges, a plea

against Hamilton's closure has gone to the EEC. A document from the "Hands Off Hamilton College" campaign has been given to EEC Commission president, Mr Roy Jenkins, and to the commissioner for social affairs, stating that the closure would discriminate against one of Scotland's most educationally deprived areas. The appeal comes at a time when the Government is trying to tap EEC funds for areas of deprivation such as Lanarkshire.

Scottish MPs received a 75-page document before the debate from another threatened college, Callendar Park, calling for a public inquiry into the college's future. The document criticized Mr Fletcher for breaking his promise of a consultation document, which meant no one could check the argument or the evidence which led to his conclusion before the announcement of closures.

"We have been forced to pit ourselves against the secrecy of a large and powerful system. We

cannot believe that the creation of these disadvantages was other than an invention to put us in a position of weakness," said the document.

It goes on to dispute the population projections used by the Scottish Secretary, saying that there will be an increase of 28 per cent in the pre-school age group in the next 10 years, not a decline. Craigieburn College of Education, one of Scotland's two Roman Catholic colleges, is due to be merged with another institution, but it seems that Education Department officials are unhappy. A confidential report shows that there may be legal problems over employment as there could be no guarantee that another institution could assimilate all the academic and non-academic staff.

The college's chaplain, Rev Andrew Monaghan, has condemned the merger plans as impractical. To merge the Roman Catholic college with an institution with different values is flawed and hollow logic, he says.

Leeds drops closed shop deal

by David Jobbins

Lecturers' union leaders in Leeds are to drop their controversial post-entry closed-shop agreement with the city council.

The liaison committee representing branches of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education in the city voted last week to negotiate for a withdrawal "as soon as possible".

There was some opposition to a withdrawal, but the committee was given little alternative after hearing the Nuffield national executive's reasons for reconsidering the agreement. The vote was 14 for withdrawal and five against with four abstentions.

According to the national executive, the agreement was not properly ratified before the 1979 Employment Act, which requires 100 per cent support in a ballot.

Any lecturer dismissed as a result of the operation of the agreement could claim unfair dismissal, and anyone unreasonably expelled from or denied admission to Nuffield could claim up to £10,000 compensation.

The committee is to ask the executive to send a senior member to Leeds to explain the details leading up to the decision to withdraw from the agreement.

Bill paves way for single tertiary body

The Scottish Education Bill, presented in Parliament this week, has paved the way for a single negotiating body for Scotland's tertiary sector.

One of the five existing negotiating bodies has announced there will be two committees, one dealing with the pay and conditions of service of school teachers, and the other with pay and conditions of service of teaching staff in further education colleges, central institutions and colleges of education.

This move has been anticipated for some time, although there are likely to be problems on its implementation from the staff unions. An argument has been over membership figures with Scotland's largest teaching union, the Educational Institute of Scotland, demanding the majority of the seats on the new negotiating body.

The 50,000-strong EIS at present dominates the Scottish Teachers' Salaries Committee, the negotiating body for school and further education teachers. Its further education section, which would now negotiate separately, claims a membership of 3,500, which it says is equal to the combined membership of the Scottish Further Education Association, the college lecturers' union, and the central institutions unions.

The EIS says it will not accept representation on a body on which the major group could be outvoted by the combined votes of the minority group. It adds that the membership claimed by the SPEA is grossly inflated.

Mr David Blainman, SPEA general secretary, gave his union's membership as 17,500, and said the EIS, which has sent its views to the Scottish Secretary, were "people in glass houses".

There has been general scepticism over EIS membership figures from other unions in the tertiary sector. Their preference is a new negotiating body is for parity of sector, with equal divisions for further education, education colleges and central institutions.

Mr Blainman said the principle of a single negotiating body had been established by the Houghton Committee's report on non-university teachers' pay in 1974, and this had been recognized by the present Government and its predecessor.

Mr Blainman warned that the Scottish Secretary would have to look very carefully at all the union memberships. The Scottish Education Bill also transfers the power of appointing principals from the Crown to the councils of St Andrews, Glasgow and Aberdeen universities. This could affect Aberdeen University in the near future, as its principal, Sir Ernie Noble, has announced he will retire some time next year.

BBC ban on anti-nuclear talk lifted

The BBC has agreed after all to broadcast the banned Open University lecture on the nuclear arms race, provided it is followed by a studio discussion.

The lecture, by OU dean of science Professor Mike Pentz, was due to be transmitted last week as part of the university's Open Forum slot. It was cancelled after the BBC said the topic was too political and not academic enough.

Lengthy discussions on the broadcast have been held between the OU and the BBC over the past few weeks. The BBC has now offered to broadcast the programme at an open lecture provided it is followed by a discussion involving OU students. Alternatively, it could go out as a general programme followed by a studio debate.

The OU's acting vice-chancellor, Professor Geoffrey Vesey, said: "I welcome this and look forward to the lecture being broadcast on the necessary arrangements have been made."

He said there would also be further talks with the BBC to clarify arrangements for future open lectures which are not part of the university's normal teaching programme.

The BBC said this week that it felt there had been adequate discussion before the rejection of the topic. Towards the final abyss—a scientist's view of the nuclear arms race. It will be sending a formal statement to the OU outlining its policy on the transmission of open lectures.

Professor Pentz, who is a physicist, used to work for the European Centre for Nuclear Research in Geneva. He is chairman of the Milton Keynes Peace Council and a member of the national council of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Dental reform package presses for expansion

A package of major reforms, including the introduction of a compulsory pre-registration year for dental students, the creation of a new dental auxiliary dental staff and a major expansion of dental research, have been put forward in a Nuffield Foundation report on dental education.

The report, published this week, follows a two-and-a-half-year investigation by the industry committee which was chaired by Professor Trevor Lewis, the former vice-chancellor of Liverpool University. In the course of its work, the 15-strong committee visited every dental school in Britain and took

Tim Can Alley: "Bishop and Pawa" sculptures evoked some rough comment when they were erected on the Open University campus for a trial period.

Staff, who were considering buying them out of the general purpose fund, said the metal sculptures looked like the tin letters from the Bishop of Osnabrück and a petition from 33 staff in the student records office said it would be a waste of university funds.

The artist, Jane Low, former

course team chairwoman of the OU's "Art and Environment" course, said the "Bishop and Pawa" were based on her experience at the university.

"Most universities display almost obscene images of unknown patriarchs, the less that is known of them, the greater the amount of dignity that can be drawn from their presence. The OU is much more upfront: no dead rulers are displayed at Walton Hall, only bishops and pawns," she explained.

Manual workers lodge claim

University manual workers have lodged a "substantial" claim for exceeding the six per cent University Grants Committee allowed for pay rises when setting cash limits.

Negotiations are expected to start in the New Year and the 31,000 manual workers want three main aspects of their claim to be taken into account.

These are: • an increase in the minimum wage to a level not less than two-thirds of the average national wage; • up-dating of the pay levels set by Clegg in August, 1979, in line with inflation;

• the rate of inflation over the past year; • the fact that they are asked to work 39-hour weeks, still the longest in the universities.

"Six per cent is not on," said Mr Rodney Bickertstaff, union secretary of the Central Council for University Non-teaching Staff.

Leaders of the Association of University Teachers are waiting for a meeting with Education Secretary Mr Mark Carlisle to discuss the 6 per cent policy and the financial framework surrounding their pay claim.

evidence from 60 individuals and 200 organizations. It concludes that graduates should be aware of the "strong scientific and medical foundations of dentistry and of the leadership necessary in modern health care."

The report proposes: • A pre-registration year for dentists. "It is no longer acceptable that a newly graduated dentist should be employed in a dental practice to 'house-train' him or her," it says. The committee also calls for a two-year period of vocational training to be carried out after registration.

A major expansion of dental research, including the establishment of a National Centre for Dental Research. This report also urges that there should be a reduction of the number of dental students, so that they can devote more time to research.

The encouragement of a team approach to health care. The committee recommends the establishment of schools for auxiliary dental staff where dental therapists, dental nurses and dental surgery assistants and dental technicians would be trained. There is a need to increase numbers of dentists graduating from dental schools.

Carlisle abandons level funding

by John O'Leary

Despite a £30m reduction in their budgets for next year universities are to escape the worst cuts in higher education over the next three years, it was revealed this week. Figures produced by the Department of Education and Science show that colleges and polytechnics can no longer expect to operate on level funding at today's prices.

A paper prepared for the select committee on education shows that both advanced and non-advanced further education will be expected to operate on reduced unit costs at least until 1984. Universities are nominally given the same degree of funding per student.

The document, originally produced for the Expenditure White Paper, finally abandons the policy of level funding which has been the Government's stated intention for the whole of higher education.

Although the cost per student at universities is to remain at £3,190 for the duration of the

current planning period, the figure for advanced further education elsewhere is set to drop from £2,300 to £2,200 in 1983-84. In non-advanced further education, the figure for 1983-84 will be £1,240, compared with the current £1,300.

Unit costs in the public sector are provisionally shown to have been reduced this year, while that for the universities has risen for the third successive year.

Student numbers in the universities are also expected to remain constant at this year's level of 265,000, while the public sector declines marginally. Numbers on advanced courses in polytechnics and colleges are shown to drop from this year's figure of 165,000 to 160,000 in 1983-84.

The figures were revealed at a session of the select committee where Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education, spent two hours answering MPs' questions on this week's round of educational cuts. He repeated his previous statement that the level of provision would be lower than many authorities had hoped

or expected, but this did not necessarily mean a fall in the standard of education. The impact over the whole country would be difficult to assess.

The cuts would inevitably fall heavily on some authorities, such as the Inner London Education Authority, which would suffer "considerable" losses. This was part of the government's stated intention to redress the balance of spending between London and the provinces, he said, but he could not confirm that the cut in the ILA's budget would amount to 14 per cent.

On the question of overseas students, Mr Carlisle said the decline in numbers enrolling in the public sector was expected to be around 25 per cent, compared with the figure in universities of nine per cent for undergraduates and 13 per cent for postgraduates. However, he was careful to point out that overall numbers would still be higher than those forecast by the Labour government, particularly in the universities, which had 3,000 more students from abroad than Labour's quota would have allowed.

£40m sliced off higher education budgets

by Peter David

Higher education will suffer the lion's share of education spending cuts in 1981-82, with reductions of more than £40m in the already reduced spending plans of universities, polytechnics, colleges and research councils.

University and polytechnic recurrent spending will be hardest hit, with a new cut of some 4 per cent in each sector next year. The science budget has fared better, with a cut of only 0.6 per cent in research council spending.

Announcing the latest cuts in the Commons this week, Mr Mark Carlisle, the education secretary, said they would have "some impact" on educational provision and employment in the service. But the proposed new target of more than £40m in cuts in education and science next year was all the nation could afford.

The universities' recurrent grant will fall by £30m from a planned total of £700m. Their capital expenditure will be cut by another £10m and will be taken off the £40m budget of the Higher Education Funding Council, which is expected to be set up in January.

The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals' immediate reaction was that the new cuts would endanger the nation's higher education and research effort. It said: "The Government is in-

flicting a further severe blow on the universities. The combined effect of these cuts and the overseas students policy seems likely to be an unprecedented loss of income in one year of at least 7 per cent."

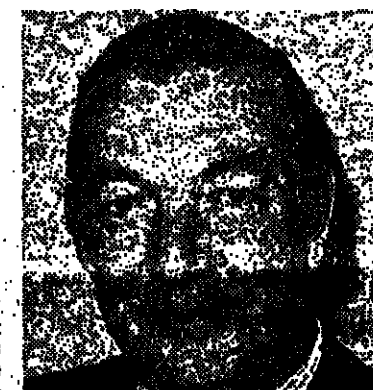
Although it has not yet finalized its decision on the distribution of the £2m cuts to be made in next year's £330m science budget, the Advisory Board to the Research Councils is expected to spread the 0.6 per cent reduction evenly across all five research councils.

This means the Science Research Council will suffer a cut of about £1.1m from its £175m budget. This reduction is not expected to cause curtailment of any major programmes and the council hopes to contain economies within existing expenditure programmes.

However, there is still concern within ABRC about the high level of cuts being inflicted on university research which could affect laboratory support and equipment spending. Sir Hetman Boud, chairman of the Natural Environment Research Council, which is expecting a cut of about £200,000 in its £53m budget, said there was bound to be containment within research councils. Local authority maintained polytechnics and colleges face spending reductions from two directions. The Advanced Further Education pool, the central fund which reimburses

authorities for most of their spending on higher education, is to be reduced by £12m from its planned level of £225m (excluding Wales).

In addition, the institutions will suffer from the general squeeze on local education authority spending, which will inhibit maintaining priorities from adding to their college budget from local revenue. Local authority spokesmen nevertheless expressed satisfaction this week at having persuaded Mr Carlisle to reduce the cut from an earlier figure of £15m. At a meeting last Friday members of the Council of Local Education Authori-



Mr Carlisle: 'some impact'

ties said that too big a cut in the pool might force some authorities to relinquish their higher education colleges.

Individual authorities are expected to hear the size of their pool allocations within the next few days. A further major saving in the maintained sector—amounting to nearly £20m—is planned by forcing individual local authorities to finance residence and catering operations without charging them to the APE pool. This will mean higher prices for students.

The "shockwaves" brought an angry reaction from the million-member National Union of Students. On the proposed increases in half charges, Mr Leighton Andrews, vice president (welfare), said: "It will devastate and destroy college authorities in polytechnics and higher institutions. Students won't be able to pay the new charges, and will be forced to live and eat off the campus."

Other cuts announced this week include £2m from the £52m budget of the voluntary and direct grant colleges; £4m savings on student award; £1.5m off the Royal College of Art's capital budget and £500,000 savings in DES administration.

The Government is also reducing its spending plans for non-advanced further education by £25m.

London lays off staff

by Ngalo Creaker

The first redundancies of university academic staff have been made. Two academics, along with two technical assistants and two technical assistants, have been declared "redundant" at the University of London Institute of Linguistics and Otolaryngology.

The Institute, a member of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, which is a school of the university, has been forced to make the decision because of its grave financial crisis. It anticipates a deficit of £150,000 by the end of the 1981-82 financial year, roughly the equivalent of a quarter of its income.

It is understood that the Institute received the backing of the school and the permission of Lord Annan, the vice-chancellor of the university, before it decided to act, and that the necessary matter will be taken to the Institute's governing body.

The staff involved have been told of the decision and are awaiting written confirmation. The two academics, senior lecturer and research fellow, make up about a third of the full-time academic establishment at the Institute, which trains qualified medical practitioners up to consultant standard.

The decision means that the Institute has the unenviable distinction of being the first institution to make academic staff redundant. This will throw wide open the debate about secure and tenured jobs, declared resistance to such measures. The Association of University Teachers has said it will strenuously resist any enforced redundancies. The Institute is in the process of consulting all the relevant unions. A series of other cuts has also been made, including the freezing of posts and administrative economies.

AUT rejects 6 per cent

University lecturers and their employers were due to meet Education Secretary, Mr Mark Carlisle, last night to reject a 6 per cent pay offer.

If there were no signs of a more flexible Government approach, the Association of University Teachers was likely to press for arbitration on the earlier 13 per cent proposals. While both sides have agreed to reject the 6 per cent offer, the AUT council was warned this week that the university authorities now said that if the Government did not alter the new cash limit they could not afford to pay more than 6 per cent.

The University Grants Committee has already told the vice-chancellors that they should give place of only 6 per cent to all their employees from October.

Although the Institute has relatively few overseas students it has been hit by the difference between what it can charge and what it actually costs to teach the students. And students on hospital staff do not pay fees.

The medical Institute generally are facing severe financial problems and have been holding talks with ministers, the university, and the university grants committee.

Christmas issues

Next week's issue of *The Times* dated December 26 will go on sale on Tuesday, December 23. The following week's issue dated January 2 will be available on Wednesday, December 31.



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Gruelling ordeal

Recent years, many Scots have been on the ancient sport of haggis. At Aberdeen University, the haggis seems to be a pre-Christmas tradition. The even more exotic sport of haggis throwing. Six would-be champions have been chosen to represent the university in a haggis-throwing competition. The haggis is a traditional Scottish dish made of mutton's head, heart, liver, and lungs, stuffed in a cloth and boiled. It is a traditional Scottish dish made of mutton's head, heart, liver, and lungs, stuffed in a cloth and boiled. It is a traditional Scottish dish made of mutton's head, heart, liver, and lungs, stuffed in a cloth and boiled.

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Book lists examined for bias

by Peter David

University reading lists are to be scrutinized for political bias as part of a wide-ranging research and publishing venture being planned by a new right-wing group called the Social Affairs Unit.

A key figure in the unit, which is being set up under the wing of the Institute of Economic Affairs, is Professor Julius Gould, author in 1977 of a report detailing Marxist influences in higher education.

At a press conference in London to mark the launching of the unit last week, Professor Gould said the monitoring of university reading lists would be only a small part of the unit's work and was not "a burning issue".

But he made it clear that the unit was being established to challenge the "powerful and self-serving orthodoxy" of social scientists who championed interventionist strategies in welfare and economics.

"There is a great need to interpret and, where possible, measure the social consequences of state action, the social limits to such actions and the social pressures which impel the rulers of a modern society to intervene, intervene and intervene again until they, and a host of subsidiary modellers, and crippling the society they claim to love", he said.

"Much of this meddling is indeed neither healthy, useful nor inevitable. It encounters much resistance, for society in the last resort can prove stronger than the state. But



Professor Gould: Key figure

those who champion a meddling intervention include many academics and professional people. "In Britain today there is a whole range of new professions made up of such champions, justifying their claims by an appeal to social science."

The new unit will be directed by former Nottingham University fellow, Dr Philip Anderson. Much of its work will consist of publishing or editing existing writing that is "lively, radical and dissenting", rather than commissioning substantive research.

Studies undertaken by the new unit will however include bias in social and political education, and the attitudes and values of teachers, lecturers and educational texts. A project arguing the case for the contraction of governmental institutions will examine the possible influence of "modishness, ideology and bureaucratic self-interest."

Dr Anderson said one study being considered would consist of a critical reassessment of influential figures of the left in sociology, such as Marcuse, Timmins, Townsend, Luing and Stuart Hall.

The new unit, which is to be based inside the Institute for Economic Affairs in Westminster, will seek sponsorship from both sides of industry but not from government. Dr Anderson refused to name organizations which had already contributed funds.

One reason for establishing the unit, Dr Anderson said, was the "odd imbalance evident in the policies of publishers towards sociology and education. Mrs June Lait, a consultant for the unit, said that one publisher had rejected a recent book of hers on the grounds that it would "offend" social workers.

Dr Anderson said the selection of books by academics for university reading lists was a powerful ideological tool. "We would say it is not up to us to show they are being abused. It is up to the universities to show they are not."

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Lecturer to appeal against dismissal for misconduct

A sociology lecturer at York University is to appeal for the second time against a council decision to dismiss him for gross misconduct.

Mr Philip Virden has been suspended on full pay since February when the university council confirmed a decision of a joint committee which found proved two charges under "good cause" statutes. These were the alleged disclosure of confidential departmental information, and allegedly publishing a document accusing members of the university staff of corruption.

In 1976 Mr Virden, having been at York for six years, and having reached the age of 30, was not raised above the salary bar. He made his attitude quite plain in a number of publications, and in one made a strong attack on the former vice-chancellor, Dr Morris Carstairs.

He also contributed to a controversial student union alternative prospectus in 1978 which was criticized by headmasters and some MPs for its alleged pornographic content.

In December, 1978, he received a final written warning about his conduct and then in November, 1979, council decided to institute proceedings against him under "good cause" regulations.

Mr Virden said: "I am a test case for academic security of tenure. I am unorthodox, I swear a bit, and I've got radical free-thinking ideas—consequently there are lots of people who want to get rid of me."

Miss Anne Riddell, the university registrar, said: "We have not entered lightly into these proceedings and are certainly not threatening security of tenure. Academics, quite rightly, have much greater job security than most but they do not mean there can never be grounds for dismissal."

The council decision was referred to an appeal board consisting of Mr Alex Lyon, MP for York, Professor Herbert Hart, formerly of Oxford, and Dr John Hargrave, a former tenant of North Yorkshire. This upheld Mr Virden's claim that the joint committee report was not sufficiently full to enable council to decide whether the case did constitute "good cause" for dismissal. They also upheld his claim that council had been misled into believing

Mr Virden: 'I am innocent'

that Mr Virden accepted the substance of the charges against him.

A fresh report was submitted by the joint committee and council confirmed the dismissal in November. But now Mr Virden has lodged a second appeal, which will be heard by the same appeal board.

There are both procedural and substantive claims for the appeal. Mr Virden said: "The fact is that the council has not recognized that the local authority, as the providing institution, is responsible."

The union sees a further danger in appointments and possibly the wages of part-time staff will be based on "entirely spurious criteria" and the amount of income generated.

Where, where self-determination is given to individual institutions, there can be a temptation for local management committees or similar bodies to pay less than the proper teaching rate," it says.

'Years of neglect' catch up with Glasgow's buildings

by Olga Wojtas
Scottish Correspondent

Five years of imposed neglect of Glasgow University's buildings have now taken their toll, Dr Alyn Williams, the university's principal, has announced.

Since 1974, said Dr Williams, all universities had been obliged to cheese-plate on maintenance to meet commitments such as increases in wages and salaries. The university's share of the recurrent grant for repairs and maintenance, Glasgow had been obliged to spend more than twice that on its very much older buildings, many of which are made of red sandstone which is weathering badly.

"Since then, our ability to provide funds for maintenance has steadily weakened so that this year we cannot even devote 5 per cent of our income to upkeep," said Dr Williams. "The allocation will fall short of the minimum required to pay for adequate paintwork, the repair of leaking roofs, the replacement of fume cupboards, and so on."

The principal said there was a great need to improve general amenities for the students which are no longer financed by the university grants committee. There was particular need to improve the physical education facilities, which were the most intensively used in the United Kingdom.

The council is considering Dr Williams' plea for a major appeal. But this had been postponed because of the financial appeal earlier in the year to keep the university's "Whistler" collection intact. However, there might now have to be a further appeal, Dr Williams said, although it would not be considered for a few years.

The principal added that without

Lecturers lash UGC about-turn

by David Jobbins

The University Grants Committee, which for many years has been regarded as the watchdog of the integrity, has turned its back on the universities, the president of the Association of University Teachers said this week.

In her address to the union's winter council, Ms Liz Ann Bowden said the UGC's chairman, Dr Edward Parkes, had told the vice-chancellors that the role was being reversed.

"Far from being the universities' watchdog, Dr Parkes is ready and willing to become the Government's pet dog," she said.

Dr Parkes' letter to the vice-chancellors was one example of the way the screws were tightened on the universities, she said.

A "vicious" turn of that screw was the UGC's letter on cash limits and the assumption of 6 per cent pay settlements for the next two years.

"These allowances, with a 6 per cent allowance spoken of from October 1, 1980, pose a direct threat to our just and reasonable pay claim for this year... People—our members—are by far the most important element in the universities

and must be given a fair and decent salary", she said.

Ms Bowden made clear that the universities should bear their part in the country's economic difficulties. But the union could not accept that rationalization should be forced on lecturers on grounds of purely financial expediency.

Although reports of detailed closures in London had been immediately denied it was acknowledged that accounts of the scale of financial pressure were "not far wrong".

The question of tenure had been opened first by the vice-chancellors by the Commons select committee.

"All this adds up to a recognition that our society is under economic pressure and I repeat AUT's consistent willingness to acknowledge it. It was always easy to speak up about universities in the days of expansion. I maintain it is doubly important to do so in the days of contraction", she said.

This was the context in which Ms Bowden referred to the AUT's policy document on the universities in the 1980s and 1990s.

Self-financing plans opposed

College lecturers have been told to strongly resist any attempts to make the adult education service self-financing.

In a circular letter to local branch and regional secretaries the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education emphasises that its policy is for a free service.

Proposals by local education authorities to impose substantial fee increases so the service becomes self-financing places the onus for determining fees and concessions on individual authorities rather than the authority the lecturer says.

"Adult education is a proper part of public sector provision. Self-financing leads to the service being further isolated and exposed. It devalues and debases the service," it adds.

It adds: "If fee levels are to be increased, and concessions withdrawn, it is important for the public to recognize that the local authority, as the providing institution, is responsible."

The union sees a further danger in appointments and possibly the wages of part-time staff will be based on "entirely spurious criteria" and the amount of income generated.

Where, where self-determination is given to individual institutions, there can be a temptation for local management committees or similar bodies to pay less than the proper teaching rate," it says.

Urban research company aims to continue axed centre's work

Law-independent urban research centre is being launched to replace the Centre for Environmental Studies.

CES Ltd has been founded by a group of staff of the centre which was axed suddenly in September after a Department of Environment withdrawal of grant.

"Non profit-making limited company which has no official ties with the Department of Environment," CES Ltd is being founded by Dr Andrew Bradburn, former assistant director of the centre, and Mr Richard Barrow, its director.

Under the research project, CES Ltd will continue to carry out urban and regional planning and policy studies and teaching in the Department of Environment. It will also provide a range of consultancy services.

The main work of the new institute will be carried out by 10 permanent staff, aided by a network of about 40 associate members who will be drawn in when work is available. "We will do much the same sort of work and have much the same sort of customers as the total CES," it says. "The only difference will be that the centre was able to do more applied work, and we will be doing more applied work and practical work."

Further links are being formed with universities in the United Kingdom and abroad, and the Ford Foundation is actively considering a grant which will help launch the new institute.

The work of CES Ltd will aim to provide an independent perspective on urban and regional problems and policies and will span both basic research and applied studies for local authorities, other public agencies and the private sector.

Main research themes will be employment, industry and technological change, housing, local government finance, land and property, transport and planning. It will also provide a range of consultancy services.

The main work of the new institute will be carried out by 10 permanent staff, aided by a network of about 40 associate members who will be drawn in when work is available. "We will do much the same sort of work and have much the same sort of customers as the total CES," it says. "The only difference will be that the centre was able to do more applied work, and we will be doing more applied work and practical work."

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Leverhulme Trust funds first chairs in biotechnology

by Robin McKie

A total of £250,000 is to be spent by the Leverhulme Trust on funding two chairs of biotechnology, the first officially designated to the subject in Britain.

The decision follows the recent recommendations made in the Spinks report which urged the major moves be made to boost the country's biotechnology capability. The two chairs are to be Imperial College, London, and the Cranfield Institute of Technology.

The chair at Imperial College is to be located in a centre for biotechnology which the college is to establish under the direction of Professor B. S. Hartley to coordinate interdepartmental programmes of teaching and research and provide services to industry.

The centre will also control the activities of the college's fermentation and extraction pilot plant and a new biotechnology unit which Imperial hopes to build.

The chair at Cranfield is to be

filled by Dr John Higgins, at present senior lecturer at the biological laboratory, at Kent University. He was announced this week. He will head the biotechnology unit in association with the University of Technology at Compiègne, in France.

Compiègne is a strong centre in teaching and research in the fields of applied biochemistry and microbiology and the deal will give them access to British markets. Cranfield will gain through the acquisition of expertise in specialist techniques.

The two chairs will be known as the Leverhulme chairs and will be fully funded by the trust for the first five years. After that, Cranfield and Imperial will assume financial responsibility.

Although officially designated the first British chairs in biotechnology, there have been several recent creations of posts in areas such as biochemical engineering and microbiology which cover similar areas of applied biological research.

ENGINEER YOURSELF A BRIGHTER FUTURE.

The Times Engineering Essay Competition For Students.

The Engineering Careers Information Service and The Times are jointly sponsoring an Engineering Essay Competition, with big cash prizes for the winners.

The object of the competition is to create a greater awareness of the role engineering plays in improving our daily lives.

Students in the United Kingdom, male and female, of all disciplines, engineering and non-engineering, are eligible to enter.

The competition is divided into two sections, one for sixth-formers and full-time students at colleges of further education, the other for undergraduates at a university or polytechnic.

THE COMPETITION

All students are invited to write, in not more than 750 words, on "What I expect engineers to contribute in the next 30 years to our nation's prosperity."

To have a better chance of winning, entrants may find it helpful to get to know about past engineering achievements before applying their own lively and creative ideas about the future.

There is, of course, no limit on the number of entries that can be received from any sixth-form, university or polytechnic. It will greatly assist the Judges if all entries are easy to read.

THE PRIZES

SIXTH FORMS/COLLEGES
£500 to the winning pupil.
£500 to the winning pupil's school or college.
Two runners-up prizes of £200 to pupils only.
Five consolation prizes of The Times Atlas of the World, comprehensive Edition, and £50.

UNDERGRADUATES
£500 to the winning undergraduate.
Two runners-up prizes of £250.
Five consolation prizes of The Times Atlas of the World, comprehensive Edition, and £50.

All prizes will be presented at a special reception; the details of which will be announced later.

THE JUDGES

Lord Nelson of Stafford, Chairman, General Electric Company; Lord Scanlon, Chairman, Engineering Industry Training Board; Dr Elizabeth Laverick, Deputy Secretary, Institution of Electrical Engineers; Joseph Moor, Director, Engineering Industry Training Board; Hugh Stephenson, Editor, Times Business News; Edward Townsend, Industrial Writer, Times Business News.

- ### RULES
- The last date for entries is Saturday, 28th February, 1981.
 - Entries should be sent to: The Times Engineering Essay Competition, Engineering Careers Information Service, c/o EITB, P.O. Box 176, 54 Clarendon Road, Walford, Herts. WD1 1HS.
 - Entries must state clearly on a separate sheet of paper, to be attached at the top of each entry, which competition—Student or Undergraduate—is being entered. The entrant's full name and address, as well as the name and address of the School, College, University or Polytechnic, must also be given.
 - All entries become the copyright of the organisers of the competition, Times Newspapers Ltd., and the Engineering Careers Information Service, who will reproduce (publish) any entry in whole or in part if they so wish.
 - It is the responsibility of entrants to see that their entries arrive before the closing date.
 - Receipt of entries will not be acknowledged.
 - No correspondence regarding this competition can be entered into.
 - The Judges' decision is final.

THE ENGINEERING CAREERS INFORMATION SERVICE:

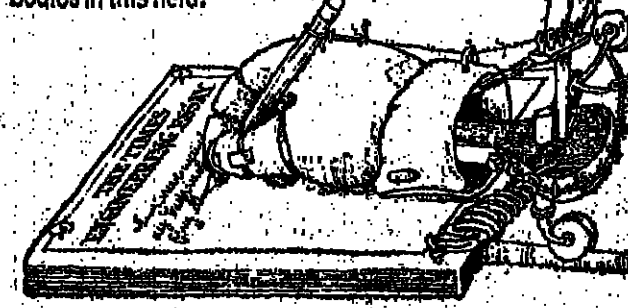
ECIS was set up in 1976 and provides industry-based information about careers in the engineering manufacturing industry.

It is sponsored by the Engineering Industry Training Board, the Engineering Employers' Federation and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

Representatives of these organisations are members of its Steering Committee. Careers advisers and educationalists are also closely involved.

It produces literature and aids for young people and those who advise them on career choice. It also takes part in national and local exhibitions and conferences.

ECIS co-ordinates its work with other bodies in this field.



THE TIMES

Robin McKie reports on a Scottish bid to be the co-ordinating centre for Europe's observatories

Wishing on a star role in Europe

Above all, Malcolm Longair is an enthusiast. His approach to work is marked by an ebullience and by a keen desire to involve as many people as possible in the exciting developments he anticipates for modern astronomy.

It will be a hallmark of his term as the current Astronomer Royal for Scotland, a post to which he has just been appointed, for he is adamant that his Edinburgh observatory is not to be an obscure adjunct of the astronomical academic fraternity of Britain.

"This place is for all the people of Scotland", he said, a belief which stems from his view that public involvement in astronomy is essential for its own good.

Astronomy is something that many people have an intuitive feeling about, its issues are quite easy to understand after all, unlike nuclear physics, although the actual scientific practice of astronomy can be very hard", Professor Longair added.

Professor Longair's slightly nationalistic approach to his job, which also carries responsibility as professor of astronomy at Edinburgh University, is perhaps a reflection of his historical relationship to his post. It is simply that although the ninth person to hold the post of Astronomer Royal for Scotland, the Dundee-born scientist is surprisingly the first Scot to hold the position since the original incumbent, Henderson, left office last century.

His appointment was made in the expectation of anything but lustrous looking work. The Royal Observatory Edinburgh already has responsibility for controlling the operations of two major overseas facilities—the UK Schmidt telescope in Australia and the UK Infrared telescope in Hawaii, two of the most powerful instruments of their kind in the world.

It has been the observatory's success in its coordinating work, together with its links with all other major United Kingdom astronomy centres through the new powerful computer system, Starlink, that could give it key importance to British science.

The Science Research Council has already picked Edinburgh as the centre which will form our bid to have the European Co-ordinating Facility for the Space Telescope set up in Britain. This will be responsible for processing pictures from the 2.4m telescope to put in space in 1984 and which will revolutionize astronomy by allowing us to see more than 10 times further into space than is presently possible.

It would also revolutionize astronomy at the Royal Observatory Edinburgh. It would be a truly marvellous thing if the coordinating centre came to Edinburgh", Professor Longair said.

"Quite simply, we would have direct access to the very best astronomy that is going on anywhere in the world. What more could we ask for than that?"

Yet the centre would not be placed in "a big marbled palace" within the observatory's impressive Blackford Hill site that rises over Edinburgh's classic skyline. It would be integrated neatly within the observatory units, letting out European astronomers mix and work closely with Edinburgh's research team: a move guaranteed to bring a major intellectual boost to young scientists there.

There is no guarantee that Edinburgh will get the European Co-ordinating centre. There will be fierce competition for such a prestigious and important move, including bids from the European Southern Observatory in Germany as well as observatories in Paris and Rome.



Professor Malcolm Longair: astronomy is something that many people have an intuitive feeling about.

But Professor Longair is clear about the merits of the British case. "If the decision is made on scientific grounds, then we should really get it. Only if political considerations are allowed to creep in, would this affect our chances". And if unsuccessful, there will still be plenty of work to be done at Edinburgh, helping to operate two important major instruments in sites half way round the world, he added.

A former lecturer in physics at the Cavendish Laboratory in Cambridge, Professor Longair seems nonetheless singularly well suited to running the Space Telescope facility for Europe. Not only is he a member of the European Space Agency's

space telescope working party, but also a member of NASA's space telescope science working group.

These posts give an indication of the eclectic enthusiasm with which he approaches his scientific interests. Originally a graduate of Queen's College, Dundee, in electronic physics, he subsequently took a PhD in radioastronomy at the Mullard Laboratory in Cambridge, before moving to Cavendish.

In his time, he has involved himself in most branches of astronomy including X-ray, ultra-violet and radio work. Then his investigations of very distant objects, that are so far away their spectra are shifted into the infra-red region, led him naturally to that field of astronomy,

an interest in the Hawaii Infrared instrument and the happy coincidence of being offered the Edinburgh job.

In his own ebullient words: "It just that it happens to be the best job in UK astronomy". He was careful before accepting it to ensure he would have a fixed portion of his time which he could commit to pure research.

But for an astronomer, good research is not just a matter of interest. "A good astronomer must have a good technical background, have dedication and enthusiasm, and be physically very tough and not prone to illness", Professor Longair said. This last attribute he particularly vital for scientists who have to spend their research time in remote observatories as much as 14,000ft above sea level, under the stars of the telescope.

More importantly, Professor Longair believes an astronomer must have "a killer instinct" to allow him to latch on to and push through a major development which he is investigating. "I sound rather strange coming from a man of Professor Longair's home, and this will be an important attribute following the rows over the resignation of his predecessor, Professor Vincent Reddish, who stepped down because of a perceived obstruction and interference by the SRC over the filling of key posts at Edinburgh".

However, Professor Longair will still be following through some key developments established by Professor Reddish. Perhaps the closest to his public-spirited nature will be the opening soon of a 160,000 visitors centre at Edinburgh built by the Manpower Services Commission.

Professor Longair is keen to make as much of this, and its opening, as possible, and that she was a brilliant young intellectual, familiar with this latest religious and philosophical ideas. The love she felt was overwhelmingly for men, but deeply heterosexual temperament is glimpsed in her remarks. Edith Sincox that she had never in all her life cared very much for women—though, that should perhaps not be taken too seriously, since she was, warding off the full-time, and by no means unsexual, flirtation of this adoring young woman.

The men she loved included her father "the one deep strong love I ever known" who twice appeared in her fiction, and her brother, who appeared once. We know there was some friction between the father over her refusal to go to church, and though it is not clear exactly what happened, her rebellion appears to have been a factor for her position was weaker than her father's; she resented his love more than he needed her. She had the brother there was far more than friction: when she married Lewis and wrote to tell him, she insisted (through the family lawyer) on knowing when and where the wedding took place. The result of that was a breach that lasted 23 years and was never really healed. No trace of the friction with her father appears in the two surviving portraits of him (Adam Bede and Caleb Garth), and this silence is perhaps responsible for their comparative stiffness, but the turmoil with her brother bites deep into the portrait of Tom Tulliver, and the intensity of Maggie's emotional dependence on him, and her longing for integrity, are mirrored with equal power.

Marian fell in love with at least two men before she met Lewis. John Chapman, the publisher, in whose house she lived as part of a ménage à quatre (Chapman, wife, Marian and spiritual companion, Marian being the last), and Herbert Spencer, the philosopher, who was known into a fever of embarrassment by her feelings "the lack of physical attraction was fatal". In the measure she was rejected by Lewis, she was rejected by the world.

There is the opportunity for one of psychology's critics, A. S. Lewis, to say that the church is an instrument of privilege, let alone that the Bible is full of tall stories. It would have distressed Marian too much.

Next, Mrs Lewis. It is one of the ironies of Victorian history that the church believed so strongly in the sanctity of marriage and the fulfilment of married love, one of the happiest and most fulfilled of marriages transgressed that sanctity, and the woman who did so was as much a sinner as the man. The novels of Dickens, when they deal with familial bonds, are full of what we might call a rhetoric of substitution. Actual husbands and wives, parents and children, seldom love each other; but there are innumerable substitutes, fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, wives and husbands, who feel the pure love that the real ones do not display.

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Posterity's fickle ways with Marian Evans

One of the few literary pilgrimages I have made was in Geneva, to the rue de la Pelisserie (as it is now called), to see the plaque telling me that in this house, in 1849 and 1850, lived the célèbre écrivain anglais, Miss Evans. How many of the good Genevois, as they pass the house, realize who that plaque celebrates?

Marian Evans had four names. First she was the daughter of Robert Evans, a clever and impulsive Warwickshire girl who made herself a literary career in London, became editor of the Westminster Review, and translated the latest works of Higher Criticism from German; then Mrs George Henry, Lewis the title to which she was not legally entitled, but which in self-protection she insisted on being addressed by; then Mrs J. W. Cross, the name she bore for the last seven months of her life; and, overlapping the last two, she was George Eliot. To say something about the first three identities is not only appropriate in a centenary tribute, it is also one way of approaching the work of the novelist.

About Marian Evans—that is about the basic self—there are two crucial things to say: that she was deeply affectionate and longed to be loved, and that she was a brilliant young intellectual, familiar with this latest religious and philosophical ideas. The love she felt was overwhelmingly for men, but deeply heterosexual temperament is glimpsed in her remarks. Edith Sincox that she had never in all her life cared very much for women—though, that should perhaps not be taken too seriously, since she was, warding off the full-time, and by no means unsexual, flirtation of this adoring young woman.

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Middlemarch is still our greatest novel, claims Laurence Lerner. Is its creator, George Eliot, who died on December 22 100 years ago, our greatest novelist, he asks. 1980 seems to find her esteem slipping, as it has before. To structuralists her realism is naive, and to Marxists she is bourgeois. It has even been suggested she should be sued under the Trades Description Act for calling Felix Holt a radical.

uncritical acceptance.

The other crucial element in Marian's make up is the intellect. She was the translator of the newest sceptical thought from Germany, the assiduous editor (in practice the editor) of the Westminster Review, organ of the philo-sophic radicals, and the author of some brilliantly caustic attacks on men are theologians, as we in have no more simply honesty and goodwill? She was better equipped than anyone else to write the great novel about the crisis of Christianity which the late nineteenth century ought to have produced. But she left the task to Mr Humphrey Ward. Robert Elsmere which appeared eight years after her death, is a subtle and intelligent study in the line of George Eliot, but it is not a work of genius.

Marian Evans aided the subject because she was sceptical about not undermining the faith of others. She believed that the social and personal function of religious belief was often beneficial: writing of Evangelicalism, she compared "that belief in paralytic and married love. It is as if the Victorian age itself, in the case of the Lewesses, indulged in the same rhetoric."

She never put Lewis into her fiction as a character: they were too close. His role was that of critic and helper—he had some heretation about encouraging her at first ("It may be a failure—it may be that you are unable to write fiction") but when she had written Amos Barton and read it to him, he burst over it, and then he came up to me and kissed me, saying "I think your pathos is better than your fun." We have lost some of the Victorian taste for pathos, but it is still a touching glimpse of their partnership; and we now have (at second-hand) Lewis's account of the same incident, which coincides very closely except that it adds that she wrote it because they were short of money.

Some critics have suggested that Lewis's influence on her novels may not have been for the good. The fact that his own fiction is appalling is not adequate grounds for this, since he was a perceptive enough critic—but conventional, and a conventional critic was exactly what George Eliot did not need. We know that he suggested the happy marriage that marks the end of Adam Bede. But before condemning Lewis for anything specific, we ought to say that without him she might never have written fiction, or never persevered. He not only handled her business affairs, he acted as a sieve for the reviews that came in, protecting her hypersensitive nature, and giving her one can't know how much unrecanted support.

And then he died: and 18 months later she married John Walter Cross, the respectable banker who had managed her finances, 20 years younger than she was (she had used to address him as "Darling Newpew"). It is a comic moving episode; once again (though for the opposite reason) she told only a few selected friends and offended others. She even married him in club—indeed, in St George's, Hanover Square. Some of the deep traditional pieties of this emancipated woman had come to the surface at last.

Her early novels show a society that is static, and seen nostalgically: is Adam Bede more than a pastoral idyll? It could be answered that nostalgia is an implicit admission that the society you are looking at was not static. Structuralism has taught us to look at the situation of the reader in relation to the text, and sees meaning as constituted by this interaction, rather than by the objective text in itself. This approach will make the opening of Adam Bede considerably more interesting.



play. If we regard this as a rhetorical device, we can say that it is Dickens's way of telling us that it is imperfect as his society is he does believe in paralytic and married love. It is as if the Victorian age itself, in the case of the Lewesses, indulged in the same rhetoric."

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There is a nice footnote, however. Gordon Haight, from whom nothing is hidden, has found a chink in Cross's sobriety. In his *Life of George Eliot* Cross refers to his own illness at Venice during their wedding journey. He makes it sound like digestive trouble, but in fact it was a sudden mental derangement. He jumped from his balcony into the Grand Canal. His wife called a doctor in terror, thinking him mad. Good old Cross, one wants to say, and forgive him for everything—for making money, for marrying her in church, for censoring her journals when he published them. This woman, who seemed to us like Tolstoy, even when we were unkind—like Poldo, perhaps after all he was like Myshkin. It is a relief (or a disappointment?) to learn that Cross was not a doctor in terror, thinking him mad. Good old Cross, one wants to say, and forgive him for everything—for making money, for marrying her in church, for censoring her journals when he published them. 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A ham-fisted way to aid poor students

Taxing grants as part of family income would be less biased than the means test, argues Mark Blaug

Our system of student grants aims to remove all income barriers to higher education. At the same time, grants are means-tested to ensure that "rich" parents make larger private contributions to the grant than "poor" parents. In this way we appear to get the best of both worlds: no student is prevented from attending higher education in situations on grounds of poverty and yet high-income parents get less help from the state than low-income parents.

It has long been suspected that the test of means for determining the parent's contribution to the grant is favourable to high-income parents or, to express the same thought in more precise language, that the degree of income progression built into means-tested maintenance grants is extremely modest and at any rate less than the degree of income progression built into the tax system. In other words, if grants were not means-tested but instead treated as additional family income taxable at the going rate, they would probably be worth less to high-income parents and more to low-income parents.

This suspicion is based on the fact that the value of the grant to the student and the amount that parents are expected to make up out of their own pockets depends not on parents' taxable income but on their "residual income" after deducting a series of special allowances from gross income in the previous financial year (the illustrative figures are for 1979-80):

- dependent brother or sister: age 11-16—£525
- age 17 and over—£665
- other dependents (but not spouses)—£655
- domestic assistance in certain circumstances—£525
- a parent who holds a statutory award—£265
- life insurance premiums and superannuation up to a maximum of 15 per cent of gross income
- interest for which tax relief is given under Income Tax Acts, principally mortgage interest.

As managers of research manpower, universities are under increasing pressure to rationalize their at present accretive, if not irresponsible, organization of full-time contract research. The inefficiencies and injustice of their current policies is becoming all too painfully obvious to the 8,000 university researchers (one fifth of all academic staff) employed on short-term contracts ranging from three months to five years.

The inherent insecurity of the employment not only corrodes morale but also undermines the cost-effectiveness of the research which universities are able to conduct. It is unfortunate that university policy treats its skilled research manpower loss as a valuable resource to be trained and hoarded and more as a necessary inconvenience to be jettisoned once its immediate purpose has been fulfilled. The result is a waste of highly expensive manpower.

It is not only the researchers who are worried. The funding agencies which pay for university research are also becoming concerned about whether they are getting value for money. In 1978-79, a recent report, the Science Research Council, the largest single funder of university research, maintained that the constraint on research is no longer primarily financial but that the key resource is manpower.

"Some research programmes in universities are suffering as a result of the lack of tenured vacancies for new members of staff and because it has become increasingly difficult to recruit young research assistants on short fixed-term contracts to fill all the posts that the Council is willing to make available," it continued.

Similarly, the Department of Health and Social Security has funded an investigation of how its research and teaching in research and the Social Science Research Council has been concerned with the issue of research careers on and off for a number of years. But concern is not going to improve the situation. The question is who is going to take the first step along the road to change?

At present there is a lot of buck passing. The funding agencies blame the organization of research and the training and pro-

vision of the research manpower is not their responsibility because they are not the legal employers of contract researchers. This is true: generally speaking the universities are the legal employers. On the other hand, the universities maintain that as employers they are inevitably subject to the conditions and constraints imposed by the funding agencies.

One of the more frequent examples quoted by universities is the three-year rule operated by the SRC: no individual researcher can be employed by a university on SRC funds for more than three years. The circumstances of the limit is raised to six years. This means that valuable scientific research may never be carried out; not because it does not meet the relevant research criteria, but because the skilled manpower it requires cannot be supplied according to the SRC's own rules regarding their proxy employees. If this situation seems at odds with the SRC's previously quoted lamentations about the unavailability of the requisite research manpower then that is because it is: the SRC is the vocal victim of its own bureaucracy. It is just a pity that researchers are the victims as well.

The effect of the ambivalence of both funding agencies and universities towards researchers is an extremely irrational use of highly qualified manpower. Research expertise is dissipated as soon as it has been trained by a contract system which penalizes the older, and hence more expensive, researcher. From the individual's point of view, there is little continuity in university research, no career structure and negative incentives (eg. substandard conditions of employment such as the forced writing of redundancy vouchers, peripheral university staff, etc.) which make it difficult to see how it can be fairly said that at present university policy appears designed to optimize the use of its research manpower. There are exceptions to this general rule. Brunel University, for example, has introduced a system which

For example, in 1979-80, the residual income of parents had to exceed £4,700 before the student met any part of a full value award of £1,245 (£1,435 in London); even when residual income was as high as £9,700, the student lost only half of the award; and it required a residual income of £18,000 before the student lost all but the minimum award of £335 (25 per cent of students fell into this category).

When we consider that the possession of even a modest house and the payment of average life insurance premiums implies a gross parental income some £35,000 in excess of these residual incomes, it is easy to see that the scale of parental contributions to grants might well be more favourable to wealthier parents than the scale of tax payments under the income tax.

Nevertheless, these suspicions have never been confirmed, partly because data on the distribution of parental contributions to grants by levels of parents' residual income has only become available since 1977 (DES, *Statistics of Education* 1977, Vol. V, Table 19) and partly because such data is not easily compared with standard data on the distribution of family incomes before and after tax.

A new analysis of the annual Family Expenditure survey (FES), which distinguishes those families with offsprings in full-time higher and further education from those without, has made it possible to place all these distributions on an identical footing for a particular year other than they can be compared directly with each other.

This comparison is considerably simplified by expressing all the distributions in terms of so-called Lorenz curves (see graph), which graphs the cumulative percentage of family incomes against the cumulative percentage of families. The FES data shows that the incomes of families with children in higher and further education are more unequally distributed than the incomes both before and after tax of all families. This result is hardly surprising. Nevertheless, it has so far remained a plausible but unsubstantiated suspicion.

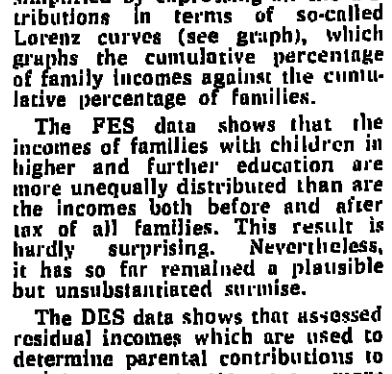
The DES data shows that assessed residual incomes which are used to determine parental contributions to maintenance grants are more equally distributed, and indeed much more equally distributed, than the net after-tax incomes of families with children in higher and further education.

This is a finding which confirms suspicions. It implies nothing less than that the means test applied to student grants are systematically biased in favour of high-income families. In short, means-tested student grants are at best a ham-fisted method of equalizing educational opportunities. If instead grants were made taxable as part of family income, their equalizing effects would be much greater.

The National Union of Students has frequently called for the abolition of means-testing of grants on the grounds that a large proportion of parents fail to pay all or part of their assessed contribution. It has not coupled its campaign against the means test with the request that grants be made taxable as part of family income.

Our figures show what would happen if the NUS had its way. It is high time that we reformed the grants system by integrating it with the standard tax system. Better still, would be a combination of such a reformed grants system with a loans scheme in which loans are repayable in the form of a graduate tax on future income. But that is another story.

LORENZ DIAGRAM



The diagonal of a Lorenz diagram depicts a situation of absolute equality and the further a Lorenz curve falls below the diagonal line, the greater is the degree of inequality of the distribution. Once a Lorenz curve for a distribution is drawn, the degree of inequality of that distribution can be expressed by means of a statistic, the Gini coefficient, being the area between the Lorenz curve and the diagonal line divided by one half of the entire area of the square; the Gini coefficient is 0 for a perfectly equal distribution and 1 for a perfectly unequal distribution. The present results are reported below in terms of Gini coefficients:

FES CATEGORIES 1975		GROSS	NET
All families (N = 8,227)		0.38	0.28
Families with children in HE (N = 73)		0.38	0.28
Families with children in FE (N = 114)		0.38	0.28
DES CATEGORIES 1975-76		GROSS	NET
Residual income of families with children in universities (N = 147,984)		—	0.28
Residual income of families with children in FE colleges (N = 180,888)		—	0.28

Source: See text above. The assistance of T. Cornford of the Centre for Labour Economics at ISE in calculating the results and the SRC survey archive for making the FES data available is gratefully acknowledged.

Notes: N refers to the sample sizes of families in the case of the FES data and to the entire population of students in the case of the DES data.

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Here again there are problems. A necessary condition for the rational deployment of researchers is that their career-structure be secure. Around a measure of employment security, without it, a researcher's motivation is undermined from the word go, as is the efficiency of the research enterprise. However, from the point of view of the university, though not of the researchers, more security for researchers is seen as splitting off the work and possibly creating a more better qualified teaching and post research.

At the same time, professionalization of the research activity (which is what more security would entail) is seen as offending the traditions of research, which are usually regarded as a critical resource in the development of any productive activity. But if the working party does include research manpower in its brief, it is then in the position of having to deal with inter-university issues of research manpower planning which would entail. So the likelihood is that "research resources" will be construed in primarily financial terms.

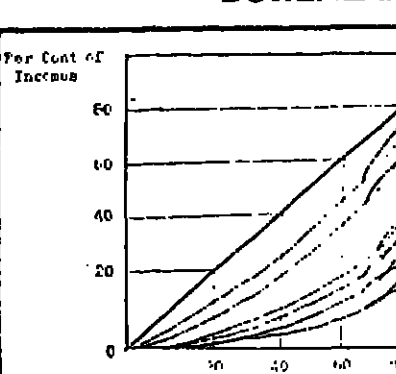
More over, though not necessarily effective, pressures for change have come from the ranks of university researchers themselves. Organizations such as the Social Research Association (SRA) and the Association of Researchers in the Medical Sciences (ARMS) are advancing recommendations which, if implemented, would inject a greater amount of rationality, not to mention humanity, into full-time university research. The difficulty they face, however, is in achieving the implementation of their recommendations. Lacking political muscle and direct access to the relevant decision-making bodies, their main impact is likely to be educative over time.

The most obvious body to represent the interests of the researcher in formulating a rational use of research manpower is the Association of University Teachers (AUT). The union with the rights and responsibilities for negotiating with the universities and government on behalf of academic staff.

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The channelling of thought



The history of attempts at contact between Anglophone and continental philosophers is a patchy one, marked more often by mutual incomprehension than by any significant interchange of ideas. Numerous attempts have been made in the past 10 years to bridge the gap; one has been more than a severely qualified success. But recently some apparently optimistic signs have appeared, at least on the French side: there has been a surge of interest in analytic work, with French translations being published of Wittgenstein, Austin, Strawson, Popper and others. A recent number of the *Journal Critique*, devoted entirely to the theme of "Les Philosophes Anglo-Saxons Par Eux-Mêmes", has sold some 8,000 copies in a few weeks, and it would perhaps not be misleading to say that Anglo-American philosophy has become this year's intellectual fashion in Paris.

The reverse is obviously not true. The French theory—especially its Marxist varieties—has penetrated departments of literature, sociology, anthropology and so on in British universities, philosophy departments seem to have remained immune.

A new contact across the Channel would therefore appear to be about to take the form of a return to essentially British ground. The disadvantage in that kind of move is that the British risk finding themselves in discussion with themselves, or equally analytically, with Jacques Bouveresse, a philosopher at Geneva, who has written from the Sorbonne, and whatever its interest for a philosopher from Britain—involve the building of bridges; and might produce a false impression of the nature of the French have translated Anglophone work.

Nonetheless, the often tepid support received by contract researchers from their teaching colleagues in AUT can follow one line: to take account of developments in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, and the Scandinavian countries. The French side the Frankfurt School, would be hazardous to imagine the knowledge of what is going on in these far-flung outposts of civilization is to be found in the English or American academic community.

Traditionally, and the tradition was old, Holland has functioned as a kind of refuge for a variety of highly varied opinions from Denmark and Locke on, and also as a meeting-point for different cultures and schools of thought. The capacities of its intellectual life are no doubt its reason for being. However, it is in all probability to assume a discussion in a respectable

Dutch university will include references to a wide range of European and American theories, a point which also holds for professional philosophy.

The opportunities offered by this situation were among the factors which led to the organization of a discussion group linking British, French and Dutch political philosophers, together with some representatives of other lands, a group which held its first meeting in Leiden last month. Political philosophy seemed to be a field in which confrontation would be possible, given the strong political overtones of a great deal of French philosophical writing in particular. Participants were generally drawn from those working in the so-called mainstream—or at least in one mainstream—of their respective philosophical cultures. From Oxford came, for example, Alan Ryan, Steven Lukes and Joseph Raz, and from London Hilde Ishiguro, from Oslo Jon Elster, from Paris and Amiens respectively came the "Althusserians" Etienne Balibar, Michel Plon and Dominique Lecourt, who proved all by their refusal to identify themselves as the representatives of their respective universities.

And linking all these participants in some manner was Alan Montefiore, who has waged a long and difficult struggle in recent years to open up just this kind of dialogue. Political theorists from Leiden itself completed the assembly, together with an unusual guest in the person of Julius Tomin, only a few weeks out of Czechoslovakia.

Montefiore had posed the group with a number of problems in the area of critical responsibility. How can such a field of debate even be recognized, he asked, if—as certain currents in French philosophy have argued—the meaning of one's acts always lies in major part outside of oneself and of them? In such a view responsibility, if it is to have any surface effects of an underlying ebb and flow. If we were to hold something like this account of political analysis, how could we speak responsibly of the nature of politics to our own succeeding generations of students?

The French refused to be drawn. The "new generation", Balibar insisted, was a fiction. And responsibility was either one of those ideas which in practice function in the reproduction of the existing society, or it was a mere slogan, a party official's in French political life are notorious for their adeptness in avoiding being held to account for their actions—or a philosophical category to be debated in the context of the great philosophical systems. "Take Kant", he began, before being invited by a British colleague to take his mother-in-law instead. Was this the famed analytical style? The French had heard of family resemblances. Wittgenstein, being popular in Paris, was at least a little warty of opinion for German philosophy was not. But Balibar entered into the spirit of the game (was it a language-game?), and reflected that what would really be a little wary of applying the family resemblance of responsibility, or any other that he

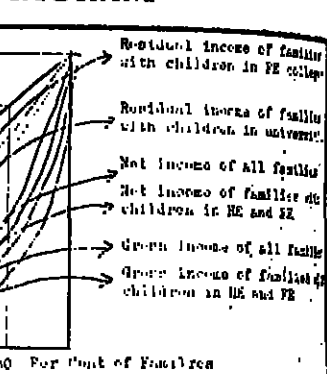
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Grahame Lock discusses an entente that may yet become cordiale



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The aims of BEC are ambitious and ambitious. "It's purpose is to raise the standards of education in business studies for the very large numbers of those who make British business work," said its first policy statement. This intention is reiterated in a subsequent document: "BEC courses cater for the needs of employers, professional bodies and employees. BEC's essential aim is to stress the vocational purpose of courses leading to its awards. BEC is ensuring that the individual Board of Studies defines a total specification of cores which show how courses relate to employment." Such changes in educational policy have always proven contentious and BEC has already attracted both enthusiastic advocates and determined critics. The educational significance of this debate, convinced the authors that a close independent monitoring of the scheme was both desirable and necessary.

We decided to make an assessment by means of a questionnaire: the sample comprising those colleges offering the BEC B4 higher award in public administration. We concluded that a questionnaire was the most appropriate form of assessment for two reasons. First, a questionnaire can be sufficiently flexible to allow respondents the opportunity to express praise and/or doubt, which could otherwise be lost within a scheme of evaluation relying on, for example, statistics of pass/failure rates.

Second, it was decided that the survey should comprise those colleges teaching the BEC B4 modules because the number of institutions involved (38 centres, of which 13 are polytechnics and 25 colleges of further and higher education) presented a manageable and complete population of "class" modules. We received a response rate of about 30 per cent of the estimated population.

The questionnaire was divided into three sections: aims and objectives, standards and quality of work, and its workload. The challenge of the "education debate" conducted by Shirley Williams as minister for education in the last Labour administration, was to direct education in a more vocational direction and away from the traditional academic approach.

We asked if in designing BEC courses there had been any consultation with employers, professional bodies and employees. The response was as follows:—

Yes (there was consultation) 59 per cent

No (there was no consultation) 16 per cent

Do not know 25 per cent

Clearly, considerable effort had been made to establish the type of education demanded by industry. However, in response to the question: "Do you think BEC courses cater for the needs of employers, professional bodies and employees?" the results were as follows:—

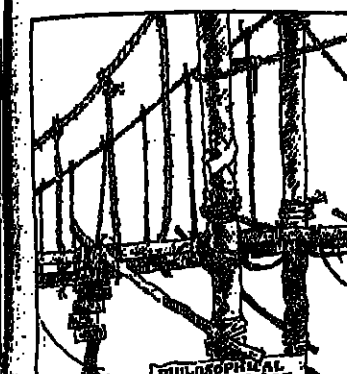
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The author is a lecturer in political theory in the department of political science at the University of Leiden.

A shift in emphasis that makes courses mean business



Robert Franklin and Barrie Craven on the "ambitious and sanguine" aims of BEC

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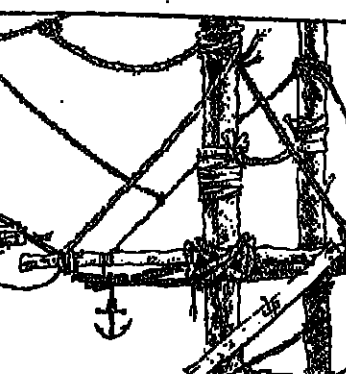
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The channelling of thought



The history of attempts at contact between Anglophone and continental philosophers is a patchy one, marked more often by mutual incomprehension than by any significant interchange of ideas. Numerous attempts have been made in the past 10 years to bridge the gap; one has been more than a severely qualified success. But recently some apparently optimistic signs have appeared, at least on the French side: there has been a surge of interest in analytic work, with French translations being published of Wittgenstein, Austin, Strawson, Popper and others. A recent number of the *Journal Critique*, devoted entirely to the theme of "Les Philosophes Anglo-Saxons Par Eux-Mêmes", has sold some 8,000 copies in a few weeks, and it would perhaps not be misleading to say that Anglo-American philosophy has become this year's intellectual fashion in Paris.

The reverse is obviously not true. The French theory—especially its Marxist varieties—has penetrated departments of literature, sociology, anthropology and so on in British universities, philosophy departments seem to have remained immune.

A new contact across the Channel would therefore appear to be about to take the form of a return to essentially British ground. The disadvantage in that kind of move is that the British risk finding themselves in discussion with themselves, or equally analytically, with Jacques Bouveresse, a philosopher at Geneva, who has written from the Sorbonne, and whatever its interest for a philosopher from Britain—involve the building of bridges; and might produce a false impression of the nature of the French have translated Anglophone work.

Nonetheless, the often tepid support received by contract researchers from their teaching colleagues in AUT can follow one line: to take account of developments in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, and the Scandinavian countries. The French side the Frankfurt School, would be hazardous to imagine the knowledge of what is going on in these far-flung outposts of civilization is to be found in the English or American academic community.

Traditionally, and the tradition was old, Holland has functioned as a kind of refuge for a variety of highly varied opinions from Denmark and Locke on, and also as a meeting-point for different cultures and schools of thought. The capacities of its intellectual life are no doubt its reason for being. However, it is in all probability to assume a discussion in a respectable

Dutch university will include references to a wide range of European and American theories, a point which also holds for professional philosophy.

The opportunities offered by this situation were among the factors which led to the organization of a discussion group linking British, French and Dutch political philosophers, together with some representatives of other lands, a group which held its first meeting in Leiden last month. Political philosophy seemed to be a field in which confrontation would be possible, given the strong political overtones of a great deal of French philosophical writing in particular. Participants were generally drawn from those working in the so-called mainstream—or at least in one mainstream—of their respective philosophical cultures. From Oxford came, for example, Alan Ryan, Steven Lukes and Joseph Raz, and from London Hilde Ishiguro, from Oslo Jon Elster, from Paris and Amiens respectively came the "Althusserians" Etienne Balibar, Michel Plon and Dominique Lecourt, who proved all by their refusal to identify themselves as the representatives of their respective universities.

And linking all these participants in some manner was Alan Montefiore, who has waged a long and difficult struggle in recent years to open up just this kind of dialogue. Political theorists from Leiden itself completed the assembly, together with an unusual guest in the person of Julius Tomin, only a few weeks out of Czechoslovakia.

Montefiore had posed the group with a number of problems in the area of critical responsibility. How can such a field of debate even be recognized, he asked, if—as certain currents in French philosophy have argued—the meaning of one's acts always lies in major part outside of oneself and of them? In such a view responsibility, if it is to have any surface effects of an underlying ebb and flow. If we were to hold something like this account of political analysis, how could we speak responsibly of the nature of politics to our own succeeding generations of students?

The French refused to be drawn. The "new generation", Balibar insisted, was a fiction. And responsibility was either one of those ideas which in practice function in the reproduction of the existing society, or it was a mere slogan, a party official's in French political life are notorious for their adeptness in avoiding being held to account for their actions—or a philosophical category to be debated in the context of the great philosophical systems. "Take Kant", he began, before being invited by a British colleague to take his mother-in-law instead. Was this the famed analytical style? The French had heard of family resemblances. Wittgenstein, being popular in Paris, was at least a little warty of opinion for German philosophy was not. But Balibar entered into the spirit of the game (was it a language-game?), and reflected that what would really be a little wary of applying the family resemblance of responsibility, or any other that he

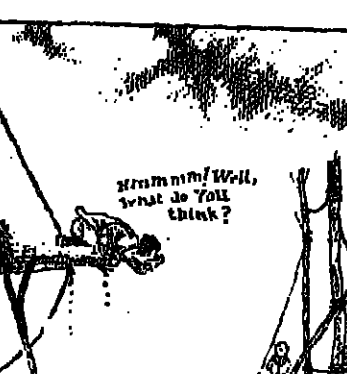
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BOOKS

Entente cordiale

compared to many contributors pull at their punches. The editorial reference to "face to face confrontations" is rarely justified, with some sensitive topics—such as the imperial records—neglected. In "dialogue" after "dialogue" it turns out that for all the apparent differences there is "a deep resemblance" not to add "similarities and convergences"; after all we are both "the guiding lights of Europe and the world" and share a "capacity for survival". This is "striking". After that it is almost reassuring to read F. B. Durruti's "British and French react very differently to particular situations and by grossly misunderstanding each other".

This volume, for all the merits of individual essays, does not greatly help explain this history of misunderstanding—above all perhaps because culture and the arts (and philosophy, political theory, and history of science) were left to be excluded. Meanwhile, pondering the wider and very desirable comparative study, it is back to the maritime fray.

D. G. Charlton

D. G. Charlton is professor of French studies at the University of Warwick.

Universities continued

UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI
The Polytechnic

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING:

1. READER IN CIVIL ENGINEERING.
2. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER IN CIVIL ENGINEERING.
3. TWO SENIOR LECTURERS/LECTURERS IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING.
4. TWO SENIOR LECTURERS/LECTURERS IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING.

Applicants must have an honours degree in the appropriate discipline. A professional qualification and relevant industrial experience will be advantageous for the Reader and Senior Lecturer posts, teaching experience at undergraduate level is essential. In addition, the Reader must have a higher degree and considerable experience in the planning and development of advanced studies in Civil Engineering.

Salary scales: Reader K7,500-9,300 p.a. Senior Lecturer K6,500-8,000 p.a. Lecturer K5,500-6,500 p.a. (CI scale) K1,977. Plus either a university addition in Malawi or the British Government may provide salary supplementation in range £5,778-£8,898 p.a. (sterling) for single appointees (reviewed annually - normally tax-free) and associated benefits. Detailed applications (two copies) including curriculum vitae and naming three referees should be sent to the University Council, 50/91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further details are available from either address.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO

Applications are invited for the following posts in the FACULTY OF EDUCATION:

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER IN EDUCATION: responsible for CURRICULUM STUDIES IN HISTORY, in the Department of Languages and Social Education. In their 20s, applicants should state whether they can offer curriculum studies in any other area as well which areas of educational practice and theory they have most experience and interest in. What research they have done. Their publications. The appointee must have had experience in teaching both at secondary and tertiary levels, and should have an interest in improving instructional materials for secondary school use. He/she will be expected to take a share also in the micro-teaching courses and in the Micro-teaching Teaching Practice Observation course is also part of the job.

2. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOUNDATIONS. Applicants should have a higher degree and also teach experience in two of the following: Curriculum Development, Educational Administration, Counselling and Guidance, Economics of Education, in addition the appointee will be expected to participate in: (i) the supervision of teaching practice; (ii) counselling in Micro-teaching activities; (iii) the teaching in in-service teachers who are involved in part-time studies.

Salary scales: Senior Lecturer R1,558-1,844 p.a. (CI scale) R8,241-1,160 p.a. (CI scale) = R1,600. In very exceptional circumstances the British Government may provide salary supplementation in range £2,700-£3,550 p.a. (sterling) for single appointees (reviewed annually - normally tax-free) and associated benefits. Detailed applications (two copies) including curriculum vitae and naming three referees should be sent to the University Council, 50/91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further details are available from either address.

ADVERTISING

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LANCASTER

THE UNIVERSITY

TWO LECTURERSHIPS

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

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UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI

The Polytechnic

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS STUDIES:

1. PROFESSOR in Business Studies.
2. READER in Business Studies.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Management.
4. LECTURER in Quantitative Techniques.

Applicants must have an honours degree in the relevant field. For posts 1 and 2, they must have specialised in Accountancy, Statistics, Finance or Management. Appointees to the Professorship will inter alia preside over the Department of Business Studies (Accountancy), Management and sundry non-University courses.

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BIRMINGHAM

THE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

CHAIR OF SOCIAL MEDICINE

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL MEDICINE:

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Social Medicine.
2. READER in Social Medicine.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Social Medicine.
4. LECTURER in Social Medicine.

Applicants must have an honours degree in the relevant field. For posts 1 and 2, they must have specialised in Social Medicine. Appointees to the Professorship will inter alia preside over the Department of Social Medicine (Social Medicine), Management and sundry non-University courses.

DURHAM

THE UNIVERSITY

LECTURESHIP IN PERSIAN STUDIES

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF PERSIAN STUDIES:

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Persian Studies.
2. READER in Persian Studies.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Persian Studies.
4. LECTURER in Persian Studies.

LONDON

THE UNIVERSITY

THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

LECTURESHIP IN LAW

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Law.
2. READER in Law.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Law.
4. LECTURER in Law.

Applicants must have an honours degree in the relevant field. For posts 1 and 2, they must have specialised in Law. Appointees to the Professorship will inter alia preside over the Department of Law (Law), Management and sundry non-University courses.

LEEDS

THE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

LECTURESHIP IN EDUCATION

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Education.
2. READER in Education.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Education.
4. LECTURER in Education.

Applicants must have an honours degree in the relevant field. For posts 1 and 2, they must have specialised in Education. Appointees to the Professorship will inter alia preside over the Department of Education (Education), Management and sundry non-University courses.

OXFORD

THE UNIVERSITY

IN ASSOCIATION WITH JAMES COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP FELLOWSHIP IN GEOGRAPHY

The university proposes to appoint a University Leadership Fellow in Geography with a special interest in the field of human geography. The post is for five years, from October 1, 1981, or as soon thereafter as possible. The appointee will be expected to take a share also in the micro-teaching courses and in the Micro-teaching Teaching Practice Observation course is also part of the job.

Research Posts

ASTON IN BIRMINGHAM

THE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES

RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES:

1. RESEARCH ASSISTANT in Applied Linguistics.
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4. RESEARCH ASSISTANT in Applied Linguistics.

Applicants must have an honours degree in the relevant field. For posts 1 and 2, they must have specialised in Applied Linguistics. Appointees to the Professorship will inter alia preside over the Department of Modern Languages (Applied Linguistics), Management and sundry non-University courses.

BIRMINGHAM

THE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

CHAIR OF SOCIAL MEDICINE

RESEARCH AWARDS

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL MEDICINE:

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2. READER in Social Medicine.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Social Medicine.
4. LECTURER in Social Medicine.

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DURHAM

THE UNIVERSITY

LECTURESHIP IN PERSIAN STUDIES

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4. LECTURER in Persian Studies.

LIVERPOOL

THE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF PERSIAN STUDIES

RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN PERSIAN STUDIES

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF PERSIAN STUDIES:

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Persian Studies.
2. READER in Persian Studies.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Persian Studies.
4. LECTURER in Persian Studies.

LONDON

THE UNIVERSITY

THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

LECTURESHIP IN LAW

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Law.
2. READER in Law.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Law.
4. LECTURER in Law.

LEEDS

THE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

LECTURESHIP IN EDUCATION

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Education.
2. READER in Education.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Education.
4. LECTURER in Education.

Applicants must have an honours degree in the relevant field. For posts 1 and 2, they must have specialised in Education. Appointees to the Professorship will inter alia preside over the Department of Education (Education), Management and sundry non-University courses.

Colleges and Institutes of Technology

Lothian Regional Council
NAPIER COLLEGE OF COMMERCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Applications are invited for the post of:

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Salary Scale: £12,942-£14,362

Further details and application forms (to be returned by 9th January, 1981) from:

The Personnel Officer,
City of Birmingham Polytechnic,
F Block, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2SU.
Telephone: 021-356 6911, Ext. 217.

LECTURER A IN ECONOMICS

Salary on Scale: £5,918-£10,440 (Bar) - £11,217

Applicants must have an honours degree in the relevant field. For posts 1 and 2, they must have specialised in Economics. Appointees to the Professorship will inter alia preside over the Department of Economics (Economics), Management and sundry non-University courses.

LECTURERS A IN COMPUTER STUDIES

Salary on Scale: £5,918-£10,440 (Bar) - £11,217

Applicants must have an honours degree in the relevant field. For posts 1 and 2, they must have specialised in Computer Studies. Appointees to the Professorship will inter alia preside over the Department of Computer Studies (Computer Studies), Management and sundry non-University courses.

LECTURER A IN MANUFACTURE

Salary on Scale: £5,918-£10,440 (Bar) - £11,217

Applicants must have an honours degree in the relevant field. For posts 1 and 2, they must have specialised in Manufacture. Appointees to the Professorship will inter alia preside over the Department of Manufacture (Manufacture), Management and sundry non-University courses.

BOLTON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Applications are invited for the post of Research Assistant in the Department of Electrical Engineering. The work will involve 16 bit microprocessors, for low power digital systems. Extensive and advanced facilities are available in the Department to support the work which is sponsored by local industry. The work will involve 16 bit microprocessors, for low power digital systems. Extensive and advanced facilities are available in the Department to support the work which is sponsored by local industry.

Polytechnics

LIVERPOOL

THE POLYTECHNIC

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL MEDICINE

LECTURESHIP IN SOCIAL MEDICINE

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL MEDICINE:

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Social Medicine.
2. READER in Social Medicine.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Social Medicine.
4. LECTURER in Social Medicine.

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

THE POLYTECHNIC

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Applications are invited for the following posts in the DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY STUDIES:

1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Library Studies.
2. READER in Library Studies.
3. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in Library Studies.
4. LECTURER in Library Studies.

TESSIDE

THE POLYTECHNIC

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

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Polytechnics continued

City of Birmingham Polytechnic

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES

ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSITIONS

The Graduate School of Education at the University of California, Los Angeles, announces two openings in the field of Early Childhood Development. The rank of the first position is open, however, individuals who have achieved eminence in the field of child development and education are especially encouraged to apply. The second position is at the assistant professor level. Qualifications for both positions include a doctorate in developmental psychology or early childhood education. Additionally, persons applying for the senior position should provide evidence of research productivity. Persons appointed will join faculty members in staffing the Early Childhood and Developmental Studies specialization. In addition to its research focus, the specialization is concerned with social policy related to children. Teaching assignments include graduate courses in child development, child development, and social policy, program evaluation and/or socialization as well as supervision of graduate student research. It is expected that persons appointed will maintain an active research program.

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Polytechnics

LIVERPOOL

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ADELAIDE—SOUTH AUSTRALIA

DIRECTOR—MULTI-CAMPUS COLLEGE OF ADVANCED EDUCATION

Applications are invited for the position of Director of a new multi-campus College of Advanced Education to be established in Adelaide, South Australia, from the beginning of 1982. The South Australian Government has decided that the existing colleges—Adelaide College of Arts and Education and Flinders, Salisbury and Sturt colleges of advanced education—should be amalgamated under one administrative structure. The college will have a single campus but it is intended that each campus should retain as much control over its own academic programme as is consistent with the objectives of the new institution. The combined enrolment of the four colleges in 1980 is approximately 7,000, with all colleges having an enrolment greater than 1,200.

LECTURER A IN ECONOMICS

Salary on Scale: £5,918-£10,440 (Bar) - £11,217

Applicants must have an honours degree in the relevant field. For posts 1 and

Union view

Under
Research
Unit of
College,

V-Cs want to go it alone on streamlining

by John O'Leary

Universities will carry out their own rationalization exercises without the aid of central government, vice-chancellors say in their response to the select committee report on higher education.

The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals has told Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education, that reviews of internal practice and regional discussions between universities are already commonplace. But they warn against expecting dramatic results too quickly.

Universities are very familiar with the challenges of a situation in which little new can start until

something old has been stopped", the CVCP says in its memorandum. "We are deeply aware of the increasing need for more and faster changes and developments in response to new needs and new opportunities in a severely strained economic situation."

"Nevertheless it must be recognised that changes in university provision leading to a changed output of graduates takes several years: higher education is a long-term business."

The vice-chancellors repeat their general welcome to the select committee report but take issue with several of its detailed recommendations, which they see as threats to their autonomy and flexibility.

On the proposal for a Committee for Colleges and Polytechnics, for example, the CVCP opposes the establishment of a joint secretariat with the University Grants Committee. This could lead to "undesirable over-centralised planning and control."

Similarly, the vice-chancellors would oppose any new obligation to make regular statements on roles and activities or to submit all new courses to the UGC for approval. They also have reservations about the payment of higher grants for students or salaries to teachers in shortage subjects.

Not surprisingly, the stiffest opposition is to the proposals in

the minority report from the committee for local planning and funding of all higher education, including the universities. Their institutions are international centres of teaching, scholarship and research, the vice-chancellors say, and there could be no step more likely to diminish their value to the nation.

Both the UGC and CVCP are said to be trying to create a climate of opinion in universities conducive to the most arduous economic use of resources. But this must take into account not only the size of the teaching staff but also the needs of scholarship, research, postgraduate training, continuing education and both national and regional requirements.

Music festival cancelled after South Africa ban

by Ngalo Crequer

The next International Festival of Youth Orchestras has been cancelled because Exeter University, the proposed host, has banned the participation of South Africans.

The festival trustees this week angrily criticized the university for taking "a novel and political stand on the acceptability of young students from one country in a festival which promotes the importance of international co-operation for the welfare and brotherhood of all mankind."

The university council confirmed a senate motion to honour the firm contract made for the staging of the festival in 1981 but ruled that the event could only take place at Exeter after 1981 if no South African had taken part. They asked for a written agreement from the festival organizers that South African participants would not be accepted or invited.

But the organizers found these terms totally unacceptable. They have cancelled the 1981 festival and are now looking for another permanent venue.

A spokesman for the university said this week there were two major reasons for its decision. "Some people think this is a good way to demonstrate a dislike of South African apartheid policies. Many people engaged in the government of the university do not relish the idea of continual demonstrations and rows. They are here to teach students and do research."

The festival, which has been staged for the last 12 years, involves about 1,500 young people aged between 11 and 23 from up to 16 countries.

The trustees said in a statement that the Exeter decision represented a permanent ban on South African participation in all future international festivals of youth and performing arts in Exeter. This is the second time the festival has effectively been banned by a university. The festival moved to Exeter because of opposition at Aberdeen.

Flowers stops nuclear veto

Calls for students sponsored by the South African government to be banned from a course in nuclear technology have been turned down by governors of Imperial College, London.

A meeting of the governing body has rejected by 27 votes to three a proposal that recruitment to the one-year postgraduate course should be closed to candidates sponsored by corporations or the government of South Africa.

Both the Association of University Teachers and the students' union at Imperial had urged the college to take action in order to comply with a United Nations resolution calling for South Africa to be deprived of nuclear equipment and training.

Stand by an earlier decision not to limit recruitment to the course after an appeal by Lord Flowers, the rector, who said that it was for the Government to take action to implement UN resolutions.

Lord Flowers said he would have to consider the position of the whole course if a decision was taken to depart from the principle of selection on academic criteria only. The college would have to see that its policies were in line with all UN resolutions if it was to act on one, he added.

Students and staff will reconsider their position next term. Both groups had threatened further action if their proposal was rejected.

Recognition battle fails

by David Jobbins

Efforts to solve a long-running union recognition dispute at Ulster Polytechnic through negotiation seem to have failed.

It may be necessary for the Labour Relations Agency, the Northern Ireland equivalent of ACAS, to put forward its own solution which can be imposed with the force of law.

Both the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education and the Ulster Association of Polytechnic Teachers are seeking recognition of the right to be consulted on matters affecting the institution.

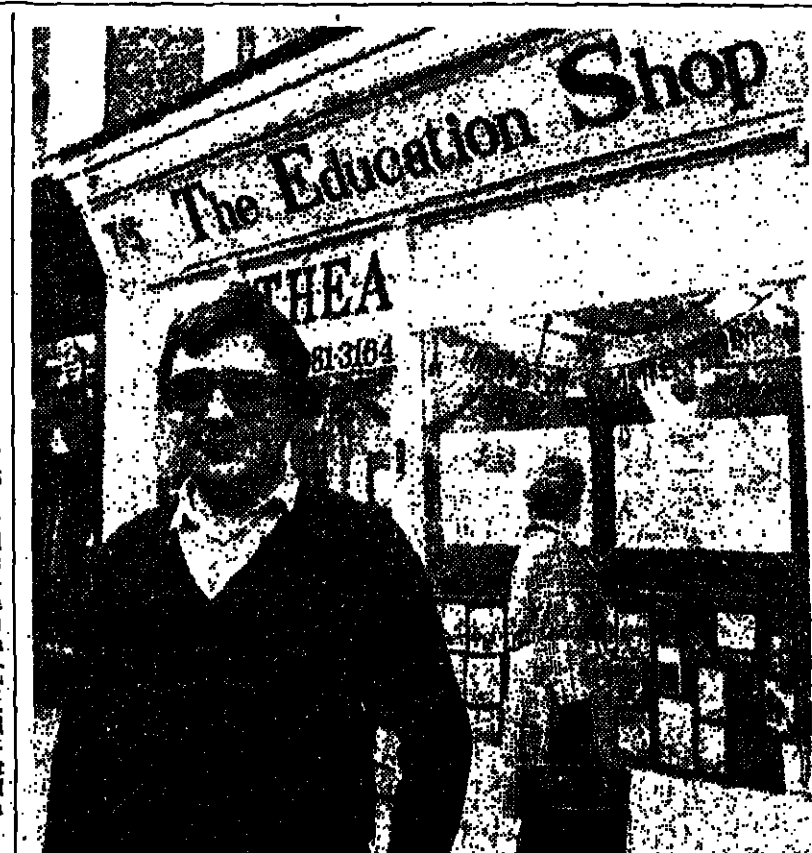
An unprecedented joint statement issued last week expressed the anger of polytechnic staff at a breakdown in negotiations. But the polytechnic authorities do not accept that a breakdown has occurred and say they will prepare to continue negotiations.

A draft report based on a survey of staff wishes, and has recommended full recognition for both unions. The unions say the point of breakdown is the failure of governors to recognize that the unions are separate organizations and should have rights to negotiate separately.

The polytechnic's secretary, Dr R. H. McQuinn, said: "They have now come round to the view that they would be happy to have a joint negotiating committee so long as there are parallel and separate panels as well."

While the polytechnic rejected the agreement to have a joint negotiating committee, it agreed to a number of questions on the way separate negotiations would be conducted.

The LRA said: "At the present time there does not seem much likelihood of agreement. It will be reached. The next step is for the LRA to prepare a final report which would be binding on the polytechnic."



Learning on the shopping list

Shoppers in Roman Road, New Ham, London, can now browse round the new Education Shop run by the Tower Hamlets Education Authority and the Dacry Foundation. Like the other 20 similar projects scattered round the country, its financial future is uncertain.

Since it began it has given advice to more than 1,000 adults, of whom 42 per cent were members of ethnic minorities and 55 per cent were women. About 70 per cent of customers were under 35, and of these half were unemployed.

too old or needed formal qualifications.

THEA is an independent service which started up two years ago in temporary premises with a grant from the Inner London Education Authority and the Dacry Foundation. Like the other 20 similar projects scattered round the country, its financial future is uncertain.

Since it began it has given advice to more than 1,000 adults, of whom 42 per cent were members of ethnic minorities and 55 per cent were women. About 70 per cent of customers were under 35, and of these half were unemployed.

More spokesmen for Labour

Labour has increased the size of its team of education spokesmen in the House of Commons following the election of the Shadow Cabinet.

Mr Neil Kinnock, who was appointed as chief Opposition spokesman on education after his success in the election, has also added a new post in his group to shadow Government ministers at the Department of Education and Science.

The new job will give responsibility for science to Mr. Ian Dwyer (West Lothian), who will deal with the subject in a wider brief than that covered by the DES.

Mr Phillip Whitehead (Derby North) will concentrate on provision for those over the age of 16 and Mr Frank Field (Birkenhead) on schools and nursery provision.

Mr Kinnock said the expansion had taken place as a response to volume of business identified during the first year in Opposition. It had been agreed that greater specialisation was needed in order to provide the soundest possible base for a future administration.

Mr Whitehead will now take charge of two inquiries being launched by working groups of the party's education and science committees.

Higher grants for science graduates

Mathematics and science graduates are to be offered enhanced grants to attract them into teaching, the Government announced this week. High calibre graduates would be offered £500 a year on top of their ordinary grant to take postgraduate

teaching qualifications. Announcing the scheme this week, Mr. Carlisle, the Education Secretary, said the pilot scheme would run for two years at a cost of £80,000. Sixty scholarships would be awarded each year.

Professors' warning to Sir Keith

by Robin McKie
Science Correspondent

Engineering professors have Industry Secretary Sir Joseph about delegating power to the country's engineering institutions. In a letter to the Engineering Professors' Council, it is opposed to automatic delegation of power to the institutions over the nation of education and training programmes for young engineers proposed by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in their plans for an engineering authority.

Chairman of the council, Professor Robert Smith of Aston University, said to some institutions already well-established accreditation programmes to check that courses were of sufficient quality this was not true of all bodies.

"Some courses are not by any one institution and case of general engineering there is obviously no engineering institution which take responsibility," he said. Instead, control of the accreditation of education and training is left to the new engineering authority which would have powers only when it considered necessary.

In general, said Professor Smith, the conference was ambivalent towards the idea of engineering authority which would control the profession.

In their letter, the engineering professors also call for no principles to guide the establishment of the authority. "The new authority must involve further collaboration between engineering, education, suppliers of graduates and engineering employers—their graduates," they say.

Solution sought over redundancies

College lecturers and their authority employers are to meet renewed attempt to resolve their standing conflict over redundancy procedures.

Their aim is a solution which remove possible threats to national joint council on codes of service, which both sides regard as the basis for pay negotiations once the Remuneration of Teachers Act is repealed.

Talks about the status of the agreement with the Council of Education Authorities came to a breakdown two weeks ago when a new initiative, emerged from a weekend's meeting of the executive of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education.

General secretary Mr Peter Dawson was authorized to arrange a meeting between senior elected members of the NCT and senior union members. This took place on Tuesday and Wednesday. "I am hopeful that the election reasonably, each side will be able to make proposals which will be acceptable to both parties," he said.

The NCT could meet early in the New Year to discuss the new proposals.

NEXT WEEK

Roger Morgan on Europe
Ethics and education
P. W. Taylor on the atmosphere
History of the AUT anomaly
Overseas aid "Briefing"
J. H. Smith on Elton Mayo

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